

In re Patent Application of:
GORTY
Serial No. 10/776,423
Filing Date: February 11, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 42-55 remain in this application. Claims 1-42 have been previously cancelled. Claims 42, 44, 50 and 52 have been amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and prior art.

Applicant submits a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) to have this After Final Amendment entered and considered by the Examiner.

Applicant also has amended the claims to place this case in condition for allowance. The dependent claims 44 and 52 have been amended to correct the inconsistency and recite the interface instead of the phrase "gateway window."

It should be understood that the system and method as now presented in this After Final Amendment is more than a mail module such as disclosed in the cited U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0029524 to Smith et al. (hereinafter "Smith"). Smith maintains a logged-in condition and has email account information files relating to a number of email accounts of a wireless subscriber. Smith allows transfer of file information with a logged-in email account, such that a wireless subscriber may move back and forth between access to different email accounts..

The claimed system and method as presented in this After Final Amendment permits a user to configure a mobile

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wireless communications device without knowing what kind of configuration parameters are used for the mailboxes. For example, pages 7 and 8 of the instant application discuss the configuration parameters that are based on conventions that are sets of email expressions chosen by an email provider and used for accessing an electronic mailbox of the email provider. Paragraph [0021] gives an example of the many different types of configuration parameters that could be based on different conventions. Thus, a user is not required to provide any configuration parameters to access different source mailboxes. As claimed, the web service and configuration module are operative as an agent between the user system and an electronic mailbox of the user as a source mailbox. As now claimed, the import module can retrieve mailbox configuration data from a source of mailbox configuration data at the user system and generate the respective configuration data objects for each respective mailbox from the configuration parameters that are based on conventions that are sets of email expressions chosen by an email provider and used for accessing an electronic mailbox of the email provider. No new matter has been added.

The system and method as claimed permits configuration of different mailboxes and allows configuration for automatic access for email accounts. The system and method provides configuration data for a web service that

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could be used as a pass-through service to configure a mobile communications device for accessing the web service.

The user system 12 could be a mobile communications device 12. The user system could also be a personal computer that a user initially employs to configure a newly purchased mobile communications device as a non-limiting example. The web service could be a web server (30 and 30a) and could be a separate server. The configuration engine 50 could be a separate server, but could be part of the web server as a distinct module. The web server and the configuration module as a configuration engine work together such that configuration parameters are automatically retrieved from the source of mailbox configuration data based on the conventions and provide configuration data objects, typically implemented as a component object module that could be an ActiveX control. In a non-limiting example, it could be formatted with an extensible mark-up language (XML) for transmission to the web service that typically in a non-limiting example is an XML-compliant web service.

An example of the code used by the system is shown starting on page 15 and continuing onto page 18 of the Detailed Description. The code in that example is formatted using XML for submitting to the web server that is typically a SOAP compliant web service. Different aspects such as the POP mail, web mail, and IMAP can be configured as indicated.

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Different guessing logic as shown in the code can be implemented such as the testing of passwords and email ID's such that a user does not have to provide any configuration parameters. Instead, based on the conventions, the configuration parameters are established within a component object module.

The technical problem addressed by the claimed system and method is how a user can configure the user system, such as a mobile wireless communications device, without knowing what kind of configuration parameters are used for the mailboxes. This is also addressed on pages 7 and 8 of the application in which an explanation is given that the target mailbox or web service requires complete configuration data for each of the source mailboxes in order to help the user access these mailboxes. This technical problem is most apparent when a user first attempts to provision the wireless account. This configuration data (parameters) may include the mailbox server name, access port, password, user name, incoming mail server, outgoing mail (SMTP) server, mail server type (such as IMAP), and other configuration parameters that may be required to configure user access to one or more of the source mailboxes. Thus, there are many different configuration parameters that could be used by email providers as explained in paragraph 20.

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The user typically only knows their email address and password, for example, "password." Information not known to the normal user would be the POP3 server, the SMTP server, the domain name, different user names, perhaps an FTP server, an access ID, DNS address and similar items.

The claimed system solves the technical problem when the user is not able to remember details for configuring a mobile wireless communications device. The claimed system implements in the configuration module a component object module that is typically an ActiveX control where data objects are formatted (such as using an extensible mark-up language (XML)) for transmission to the web service that is typically XML-compliant. This allows automatic use of "guessing" an implemented logic query as noted in the code starting on page 15. Thus, the system does not simply take stored data and automatically retrieve it. There is also an implemented logic for determining configuration parameters even though the user may not know the extent of the different type of configuration parameters required for provisioning and accessing the email account.

As to Smith, the claimed system and method presented in this After Final Amendment are directed to solving a different technical problem using a different technical solution as compared to the technical problem solved by Smith. Smith is directed to solving the technical problem when people

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use multiple electronic mail accounts that allow easier access to multiple mail accounts from a wireless device by having an email agent maintain a logged-in condition with at least two of a plurality of email accounts. In Smith, a selection module accepts a selection of one of the plurality of logged-in email accounts for transferring file information. A wireless subscriber may move back and forth between access to each of the plurality of email accounts without requiring repeated log-in/log-out of any of the email accounts by the wireless subscriber. These email applications are defined and identified by a parameter stored in corresponding email accounts information file maintained separately for each subscriber. Usually one default information file as a default email account is used for a particular subscriber.

The claimed system and method are directed to solving a different technical problem of managing multiple mailboxes in which separate mailboxes have a unique set of configuration parameters including the use of different mailbox protocols, giving rise to differing sets of configuration parameters for each of the mailboxes. The technical problem approached by the claimed system and method is directed to a user that in the past determines these configuration parameters for each of the mailboxes and configures manually a web service associated with the web server to access each of the mailboxes.

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The claimed system and method are directed to providing configuration data for a requesting web service and acting as a pass-through service. The web service could be a new internet service provider that uses the configuration data for accessing electronic mail from another internet service provider. The mailbox could be an interface into another electronic mailbox and use the configuration data on-the-fly. The module automatically configures access to electronic mail from the plurality of different electronic mailboxes.

The technical solution of the claimed system and method includes the user system, web service and target mailboxes that can be configured such that the configuration module automatically retrieves configuration parameters from the source of mailbox configuration data and transmits these configuration parameters to a web service or target mailbox (not the source mailbox) for allowing the web service or target mailbox to be configured to access the plurality of source mailboxes without user intervention. This occurs when the user does not know these configuration parameters and uses a logic query as defined in the code to determine such parameters. The import module has mailbox import agents that correspond to respective email clients at the user agent and retrieve mailbox configuration data from the source mailbox configuration data at the user system and generates respective configuration data objects for each respective mailbox based

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on the configuration parameters. The web service interface module interfaces with the web service and target mailboxes through the web service.

Clearly, Smith is directed to solving different technical problems and uses a different technical solution.

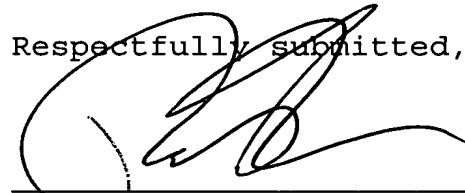
DeBusk is directed to modular tracking and profiling with information management software using active X controls. The combination of Smith and DeBusk would motivate one skilled in the art to provide the universal mail wireless email reader of Smith that at most would allow a selection module to select different logged-in email accounts for transfer of file information and move back and forth between access to different email accounts without a repeated log-in/log-out using some type of active X controls. It would not solve the technical problem associated with configuring a new wireless or mobile communications device that allows a web service to be configured to access a plurality of source mailboxes without requiring the user to provide any configuration parameters that are based on the conventions that are sets of email expressions chosen by an email provider and used for accessing an electronic mailbox to the email provider.

Applicant contends that the present case is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due.

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If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing this case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, on this 9th day of June, 2008.

